

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 04860 211446Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 NASA-01 COME-00 PM-05
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00
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-----011766 211449Z /53
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7970
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RIO FOR IAGS

DEPARTMENT FOR NASA AND NOAA

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: TOCY, TSPA, BR
SUBJ: SEASAT A SATELLITE OBSERVATION PROGRAM

REF: STATE 076392

1. SUMMARY: PROMPT, CONCERTED USG RESPONSE NEEDED TO PRESERVE
POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHMENT OF DMA-REQUIRED TRACKING STATION
IN BRAZIL FOR SEASAT-A PROGRAM. END SUMMARY.

2. THIS SITREP IS BASED ON RECENT MEETING OF EMBASSY SCICOUN
WITH COBAE SUBGROUP AT FOREIGN MINISTRY AND OF DEFENSE
MAPPING AGENCY (DMA)/IAGS REPRESENTATIVES JOINTLY WITH IBGE
REP AND INPE DEPUTY-DIRECTOR. AFTER GOB AGENCY EVALUATIONS,
DISCUSSIONS AT TWO COBAE SESSIONS, AND STUDY OF EMBASSY'S
NOTE AND SEASAT PROGRAM DESCRIPTION BOOKLET, GOB APPEARS TO
BE STILL TRYING TO ACCOMMODATE OUR REQUEST BUT HAS SOME QUESTIONS
AND PROBLEMS WHICH WERE PRESENTED TO US.

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3. IBGE REMAINS WILLING, AT LEAST AT TECHNICAL LEVEL, TO PERFORM
THIS SERVICE FOR DMA BUT DECISION IS NOT IN ITS POWER. IBGE
IS SUB-AGENCY OF PLANNING SECRETARIAT AND REPRESENTED ON
COBAE BY JOSE DION DE MELO TELES, PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL
RESEARCH COUNCIL (CNPQ) WHICH IS MOST INFLUENTIAL TECHNICAL
AGENCY OF SEC PLAN AND HAS SPACE SUBJ-AGENCY (INPE) UNDER IT.
DION AND OTHER COBAE MEMBERS DO NOT SEE DIRECT BENEFITS TO

IBGE AND GOB FROM TRACKING SERVICE (POINTING OUT THAT DESIRED STATION IS NOT NEW STDN FACILITY) AND ARE LOOKING FOR ADVANTAGES GAINED BY PROPOSED PARTICIPATION. ONE PRELIMINARY CONCLUSION WAS THAT TRACKING STATION SHOULD BE LOCATED AT NATAL SPACE CENTER RATHER THAN RECIFE.

4. FOLLOWING ARE QUESTIONS FROM GOB FOR WHICH EMBASSY NEEDS DEPARTMENT ANSWERS BY COB JUNE 23 TO PRESENT TO FONMIN ON JUNE 26 FOR POSSIBLE DISCUSSION IN NEXT SCHEDULED COBAE MEETING ON JUNE 27 (DMA REPS TOLD EMBASSY THAT GOB DECISION IS NEEDED BY JULY 1 TO ESTABLISH STATION BY JULY 15):

A. OFFER TO BRAZIL OF "PARTNERSHIP" IN PROGRAM, IF GOB PERFORMS TRACKING SERVICE, DOES NOT SPELL OUT ADVANTAGES WHICH BRAZIL GAINS OVER NON-PARTNERS. WHAT ARE "RELATED COST IMPLICATIONS OF AVAILABLE DATA" REFERRED TO IN REFTEL? WHAT DATA ON WHAT TERMS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO GOB THAT IS NOT GENERALLY SO AVAILABLE NOW OR IN FUTURE? DOES NOT SEASAT-A PROGRAM HAVE OPEN-DATA POLICY? WHAT HAPPENED TO STATEMENT OF REFTEL (QUOTED IN EMBASSY NOTE) THAT PRIOR TO LAUNCH NASA PLANNED TO ISSUE ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR SEASAT DATA USE INVESTIGATIONS IN WHICH INPE OR OTHER BRAZILIAN ORGANIZATION MIGHT PARTICIPATE?

B. WHAT SPECIFIC DATA INTERPRETATION PROGRAMS (SOFTWARE) WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO BRAZIL? WHAT FACILITIES WOULD GOB NEED TO PROCESS DATA? IF GOB WISHES TO RECEIVE DATA DIRECTLY FROM SATELLITE, WILL TRANSMITTERS AND TAPE RECORDERS BE ACTIVATED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ON REQUEST? GOB MAY WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN SAR DATA INTERPRETATION AND EVALUATION EVEN THOUGH NOT RECEIVING THESE DATA DIRECTLY.

5. SCICOUN UNDERSTANDS THAT TRACKING STATION REQUEST IS DAM, NOT NASA/NOAA, REQUIREMENT BUT DMA HAS NO QUID PRO QUO TO OFFER FOR THIS SERVICE. IF SUG AS WHOLE DOES NOT OFFER GOB SOME UNIQUE TANGIBLE BENEFITS FROM PARTICIPATION, EMBASSY DOES NOT BELIEVE GOB WILL PERMIT IBGE TO ESTABLISH STATION OR ALLOW NEW DMA STATION IN BRAZIL.
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